

BENJAMIN F. KRAMER
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Montgomery County

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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The Maryland House of Delegates
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Dr. Wallace D. Loh
President
University of Maryland
1101 Main Administration Building
College Park, MD 2072-6105

Dear Dr. Loh,

It is with disappointment and concern that we write to you with regard to the decision to eliminate eight of the University of Maryland's athletic teams.

The aforementioned decision has been further exacerbated by the disingenuous proposal that the affected teams be given the opportunity to raise eight years worth of operating expenses by June 30, 2012, in order to remain in the athletic department. It is glaringly apparent that this "fundraising" opportunity is exceedingly unlikely to be successful in light of the extremely limited time frame (4 months) that has been afforded the teams.

Each of the teams should be provided the opportunity to work with you and the athletic department to ascertain an equitable, prudent, and reasonable program to achieve long term sustainability.

Each of the teams should be provided, at a minimum, the opportunity to raise the operating expenses for the upcoming fiscal year, to remain viable. In doing so, the University will not bear any financial burden associated with maintaining the teams and this will allow time to develop a long term plan for success.

The University of Maryland's swim and dive team has been aggressively pursuing all options to continue operating. They are well organized and raising funds. Providing a realistic time frame to continue their efforts will undoubtedly lead to the team retaining its viability.

Failure to engage those teams, which are diligently pursuing efforts to develop a realistic plan for survival, is illogical. The heavy handed, unrealistic proposal, as it currently exists, is an embarrassment to all of us who serve the citizens of this state in our legislature.


The opportunity to meet with you and discuss a resolution to the concerns, as expressed in this correspondence, would be appropriate.

Certainly, the outstanding University of Maryland students and athletes who are impacted deserve nothing less.

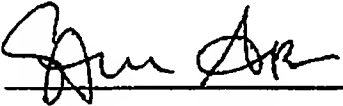
Sincerely, ~

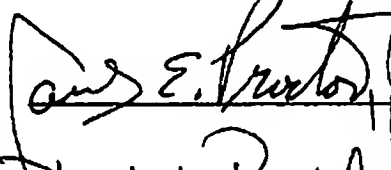
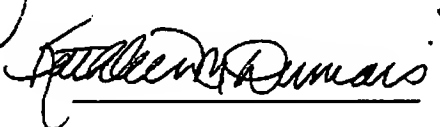
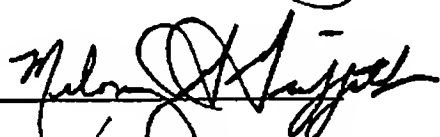

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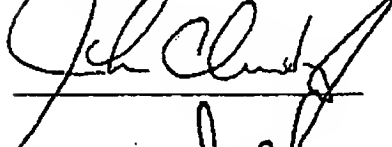
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